(*c*) Applicants for renewal of licenses are not compelled to deposit their arms in police stations, but under Section 11 of the Travancore Arms Regulation, V of 1084, "any person possessing arms, ammunition or military stores, the possession whereof by him has in consequence of the cancellation or expiry of a license become unlawful, shall deposit the same without unnecessary delay with the officer in charge of the nearest police station." If applications for renewal are made sufficiently early, the necessity for depositing arms in the nearest police station may be obviated.

Portions of the Periyar River under the Control of the Forest Department.

43. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the portions of the Periyar river, flowing through the Kuttamangalam and Kotamangalam *pakuthies* of the Muvattupuzha taluk, are included in the reserve and placed under the control of the Forest Department?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that several registered wet and dry lands are included in the said *pakuthies*, that they are situated on the southern bank of the river, and that they contain human habitations also?

(*c*) Are the Forest Officers competent to take up cases against the people, penalising such acts as the taking up of cattle through the river and the use of the river for bathing purposes and for boat traffic?

(*d*) If so, will the Government, in the interests of the ryots concerned and for the protection of their cattle, exclude these places from the control of the Forest Department and make them available for the use of the public?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) Portions of the Periyar river flowing through the Kotamangalam and Kuttamangalam *pakuthies* and most of the registered lands on the southern bank of it fall outside the reserve forest.

(*c*) and (*d*) The restrictions under the Forest Regulation apply only to reserve forests. Specific cases of hardship resulting from such restrictions will be enquired into and remedied as far as possible.

System of Grant of Agricultural Loans.

44. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to give effect to the following measures with a view to enable the poor ryots to secure greater benefits under the existing system of granting agricultural loans:

(*a*) that there should be a restriction to the effect that no one will be entitled to a loan exceeding Rs. 1,000;

(*b*) that loans will be given only to those whose occupation is agriculture; and

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